THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE) DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (b) The Government is aware of the discussion and debate going on in the country regarding the revision of its text books for all the stages of school education. Some historians have reacted through media and organisation like SAHMAT. These are apparently based on ideological consideration.

(c) All the manuscripts are being rigorously examined and reviewed at workshops to ensure that the books are free from factual errors and any sectarian or ideological bias. Subject experts, advisers, practicing teachers and internal faculty members sit together to see that the books conform to objective academic standards.

Scholars writing History books

219. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI ABDUL GAIYUR QURESHI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of scholars who have been assigned the work of writing History books for students of schools, following the CBSE pattern of senior secondary education, being prepared by NCERT, as per new syllabus;

(b) what are the credentials of each of them; and

(c) the reasons and the rationale of displacing the earlier authors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE) DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (c) For the development of the new textbooks, NCERT draw upon the inputs and expertise of academicians, including teachers and subject area experts. There is no fixed panel of experts for writing the text books. When the text books are finally printed, the name of the experts associates with the development of text books are mentioned in them.

Errors in History text books of NCERT

220. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item

captioned, "Glaring errors in new History syllabi", reported in the Hindustan Times dated 23rd January, 2002;

(b) if so, whether Government had declared that the NCERT textbooks would be vetted by the academicians;

(c) if so, whether the new syllabi contains glaring errors and are politically motivated; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to review their decision; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE) DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The NCERT books are written by academicians, teachers and other experts as per set procedure which is being followed.

(c) and (d) The NCERT has undetaken suitable measures on the basis of the comments and suggestions received from well-known historians and CBSE. No review is being considered, however, NCERT has been accepting constructive suggestions for further improvement in all academic and professional matters.

Subsistence Allowance to Suspended Kendriya Vidyalaya Teachers

221. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many Kendriya Vidyalaya teachers in Bhopal and Jabalpur regions, placed under suspension during 1999 and 2000, have not been paid any amount as subsistence allowance from the dates of their suspension;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether departmental inquiries are also being conducted without paying them the essential subsistence allowance; and

(d) if so, the rationale and legality thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) As reported by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, there is only one case of KVS (Regional Office) Bhopal where subsistence allowance could not be paid to the charged